

OREGON CROP WEATHER



OREGON
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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Weather: The hot weather conditions intensified this past week in Oregon. High temperatures exceeded 100 degrees across most of the State, with The Dalles recording the weekly high of 106 degrees. Low temperatures were generally in the fifties. The higher than average temperatures were causing stress to some crops. Not much precipitation in western Oregon, with some gusty wind conditions in several southwest areas. Some noticeable precipitation occurred in north-central and northeast Oregon. A hailstorm occurred in Baker County, with no major crop damage. Some early-week thunderstorms occurred in Sherman, Union and Malheur counties, where crop damage was mixed.

Field Crops: Second and third cuttings of alfalfa and other hay were ongoing across the State. Grass seed harvest continued in the Willamette Valley and in northeast Oregon. Red clover seed was in full bloom in Washington County. In Baker County, bluegrass seed was harvested. Winter wheat harvest continued in eastern Oregon and began in many western Oregon counties. Yield projections were mixed in Umatilla County and looked good in Sherman County. The barley crop continued to ripen in Klamath County; small grain harvest projections there appear set for early August.

Vegetables: Green beans continued to be harvested throughout the State. Zucchini, crook-neck and other varieties of summer squash were ripening. Peppers and eggplants were setting. Early tomato varieties were maturing. Beet seed fields nearing windrow time. Sweet corn was ripening and will be available soon. Local markets have salad greens for sale. The condition of the onion crop is good. Potatoes were 90 percent row closed and flowering in Klamath County. Potato vines were beginning to turn on the sandier ground in Malheur County.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Temperatures over 100 degrees required growers to do heavy irrigation to keep plants alive. Nurseries were also feeding plants, repotting plants, and doing pot rotation. Bearded iris growers were harvesting tubers for shipment to customers. Greenhouses were stocking up on late summer and fall planting materials. Christmas tree growers were shearing trees.

Fruit and Nuts: Blueberries and blackberries continued to be picked throughout the Willamette Valley. Apple and pears continued to size. Tart cherry harvest was complete in Yamhill County, while peach harvest continued. Southern Willamette Valley hazelnuts looked good. Trees with eastern filbert blight were stressed and limbs were turning brown. Southern coast blueberries were picked. Some growers reported their cranberries were sizing well. A third cover spray was applied to Jackson County pears. Harvest for the early varieties could begin at the end of next week.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Very warm weather temperatures across the State continued to stress pastures. Dryland pastures, in some areas of western Oregon, were reported depleted. Supplemental feeding was common in these areas. Irrigation continued on pastures with facilities available. Rangeland in eastern Oregon was reported in good condition. Livestock across the State were reported doing very well.

Crop Progress - Week Ending 7/25/04

	This week	Previous week	Last year	5 year average
Barley harvested (%)	20	10	23	20
Spring Wheat harvested (%)	15	5	25	13
Winter Wheat harvested (%)	23	12	46	32
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.8	6.9	—	—

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 7/25/04

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil (%)	11	42	47	—
Subsoil (%)	10	44	45	1

Crop Condition - Week Ending 7/25/04

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat (%)	—	6	30	58	6
Barley (%)	—	4	31	56	9
Range & Pasture (%)	—	8	43	43	6

CLACKAMAS: Winter wheat ready for harvest. Limited hay making. Hot weather put a fast finish to raspberry picking. A few Marionberries remain and Evergreen blackberry picking is increasing. Hazelnut blanks are dropping. Looks like a good crop. Green bean harvest advancing rapidly. Sweet corn ready soon. Salad greens available for local markets. Irrigation dominates nursery activity. Livestock in good condition but were looking for shade. Dryland pasture output is about gone; supplemental feeding is common.

COOS/CURRY: Commercial blueberries near the coast were being harvested. Some cranberry growers reported fruit was sizing well. Moth flight of blackheaded fireworm was increasing at some locations, which might indicate another brood. Livestock mostly good. Days since precipitation of 0.25 inches or more at Bandon: 46 days, at Brookings-Harbor: 58 days. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 61.5 at Brookings-Harbor to 63.4 deg F at Bandon; highs ranged from 72.0 at Bandon to 73.8 deg F at Brookings-Harbor, and lows ranged from 51.9 at Bandon to 54.8 deg F at Brookings-Harbor. Precipitation ranged from 0.00 inches at Bandon to 0.09 inches at Brookings-Harbor. Growing degree days (base 50 deg F) ranged from 83 GDD at Brookings-Harbor to 95 GDD at Bandon. No rainfall during the week, with overcast/fog conditions prevailing throughout the mornings during the period.

JACKSON: Winter wheat harvest started. Third cover sprays completed on pears. Harvest for early varieties may begin by end of next week. Raspberry harvest complete in gardens; wild blackberries ripening. Sweet corn ripening. First tomatoes maturing.

JOSEPHINE: Very hot and dry, with a slight wind at times and gusty at others. Water, water, water is all that people are doing here. Some harvesting of summer squash, beans, berries, plums, prunes, and peaches. Tomatoes are starting to ripen, depending on variety. Eggplant are setting on and there is some local corn ripening. Peppers are setting on. The zucchini and other summer squash are bearing well. Apples continue to ripen with branches loaded. Some scab on trees that did not get adequate pruning in spring. There was too much moisture with too much foliage and so there is some scab. Some pecans on trees, which is a surprise because they bloom so early so they usually don't do well. Same for almonds. There does not appear at this date to be a good crop of acorns, so hazelnuts probably are not going to be heavy here. Maybe at higher elevations. Elderberries are setting fruit well away from the burn areas.

LANE/LINN/BENTON: Grass seed still being harvested. Some hay operations nearly done in the drier areas. Blueberries 75 percent over except for late varieties. Early blackberries done, mid-summer varieties just starting. Had a nice apricot crop this year. Peaches coming on strong. More fruit than anticipated. Early summer apples showing up. Summer Gravenstein apples green on the outside but ripe inside. Hazelnuts are a big crop. Look for eastern filbert blight. Trees with the blight are stressing and limbs are turning brown. Vegetables are in full production. Some with early and late blight. Outside tomatoes slow to ripen, either too cold or too hot. Greenhouse and nurseries have some production but sales slow.

MARION: Grass seed harvest continues. Wheat harvest has started. Some vegetable seed has been swathed. Pastures and nonirrigated crops are drying up fast. Irrigated crops are growing well. One or two fields of wheat have been harvested but harvest isn't yet in full swing. Seed yield reports continue to be average to lower with an occasional above average field reported. Third cutting alfalfa is being taken. With temperatures in the 100 degree range, crops are pretty stressed.

WASHINGTON: Finishing grass seed harvest. Winter wheat harvest has begun. Field corn tasseling. Red clover for seed; full bloom. Beet seed fields nearing windrow time. Alfalfa being cut again. Blueberries continue to produce. Wild (non-native) blackberries ripening. Hazelnuts filling well and crop looks very good. Walnuts showing well. Most apples looking best in years. Pears sizing. Green beans being harvested. Sweet corn at stands. Zucchini crooked neck and other squash ripening. Greenhouse and nursery cover crops doing well. Rotation of pots continues, plus irrigation. Cows and calves look good and buffalo doing well. Low temperature 58, with a high of 104.

YAMHILL: Tart cherry harvest was completed this week. Peach harvest continues. Walnut husk fly emerged this week.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER: Bluegrass seed harvested. Haying continues. A storm occurred on Monday with high wind, hail and rain. Precipitation reports ranged from 0.5 to 1.7 inches. No major crop damage reported. Cattle doing well. Lots of calves contracted on recent satellite sales.

HARNEY: Second crop alfalfa harvest going well. Most growers missed the one small thunderstorm last week. Production and quality up. Meadow and grain hay still being harvested. Hot and dry!

HOOD RIVER: Cherry harvest was completed in the Hood River Valley. Growers in the lower valley prepared orchards for Bartlett pear harvest. Routine summer orchard operations continued throughout the Hood River Valley.

KLAMATH: Above average temperatures, best summed up as hot. Some barley continues to ripen. Expectations are that some grain harvest may start in early August. A few farmers finishing second hay cutting. Potatoes continue to bloom, with 90 percent rows closed and flowering. Onions look good.

MALHEUR: Heavy rains in the Nyssa-Adrian areas early last week caused moderate damage to corn crops. Slightly warmer than normal temperatures through most of the week. Third cutting of alfalfa is progressing nicely. Irrigation water is holding well as wheat harvest is underway and demand is not as high as earlier. Potato vines are beginning to turn on the sandier ground.

SHERMAN: Some rod weeding as Monday showers (ranging from 0.17 to 0.72 inches) halted the wheat harvest, which was just getting underway in full scale. Things picked up again quickly by Wednesday. Second hay cut and down before the rain. Grain yields best in several years as we finally got away from such horrible drought conditions. Our inch of rain in June is paying dividends. Quality reports sound positive, too.

UMATILLA: Weather conditions continue to be hot and dry. Range conditions are mainly good to excellent. Winter wheat harvest is well underway, with mixed yields reported so far. Some weed problems from the late rains are causing some concern for wheat, meaning farmers will be getting their harvest in as quickly as possible.

UNION: Grass seed harvest well underway. Second cutting of hay being baled. Some crop damage due to thunderstorms early in the week.

WASCO: A thunderstorm happened early Monday morning which delayed harvest for a day while the wheat dried out. Extreme hot weather continued the rest of the week. Wheat harvest progressed rapidly through the Columbia district area on towards Dufur, Wamic and Maupin. Winter wheat yields are running above normal to slightly below normal. Test weights and protein levels look promising. Field stubble is very thick this year after harvest operations. It should be a good coverage to prevent erosion on fields through the winter on "no till" farming operations. Still picking late cherry varieties in some of the higher elevation orchards. A small quantity of very late cherries are yet to be harvested, but for the most part cherry harvest is complete. The fruit processing plants are busy brining cherries. Apricot and peach harvest was active. Harvesting of alfalfa hay continued throughout the week. Cattle and sheep were doing well on ranges and pastures, but water and grass forage is becoming short in many areas. Fire danger is high in most farming areas.

WEATHER DATA FOR SELECTED STATIONS IN OREGON WEEK ENDING July 25, 2004 (as of 11:00 am)

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS BASE-50F		LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIPITATION			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	52	96	67	7	120	48	0.02	-0.19	2	61.04	-3.88	94	189
Crescent City	54	71	61	3	76	19	0.10	0.03	3	53.42	-10.76	83	151
Florence	46	84	66	6	110	40	0.01	-0.13	1	70.43	-4.56	94	179
North Bend	54	73	64	5	100	30	0.00	-0.07	0	64.61	2.34	104	170
Tillamook	48	92	65	7	104	42	0.04	-0.24	1	83.46	-3.21	96	193
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Corvallis	55	104	76	11	183	70	0.01	-0.07	1	30.69	-11.04	74	131
Eugene	52	103	74	7	173	47	0.08	0.00	1	37.95	-10.24	79	148
Hillsboro	54	101	74	9	169	56	0.00	-0.09	0	29.75	-6.65	82	154
McMinnville	51	103	74	8	167	51	0.00	-0.07	0	32.94	-9.44	78	152
Portland AP	60	103	77	9	190	57	0.04	-0.08	1	28.69	-6.42	82	150
Salem	56	104	75	9	179	60	0.06	-0.01	1	37.71	-0.62	98	157
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	56	104	78	6	194	40	0.00	-0.06	0	28.12	-2.36	92	115
Medford	58	105	80	7	214	46	0.00	-0.06	0	19.10	0.82	104	112
Roseburg AP	56	103	76	8	184	50	0.09	0.02	1	33.00	0.98	103	138
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	49	94	71	4	147	28	0.05	-0.02	1	16.66	3.40	126	94
Heppner	52	99	75	6	177	37	0.08	0.01	2	13.57	0.40	103	130
Hermiston AP	51	104	77	4	189	23	0.01	-0.04	1	10.54	2.03	124	89
John Day	52	100	74	5	169	36	0.09	0.00	2	12.04	-0.24	98	113
Moro	51	100	73	5	159	29	0.29	0.23	2	12.15	1.55	115	92
Pendleton AP	55	103	78	4	196	28	0.44	0.37	2	13.96	2.52	122	102
The Dalles	58	106	79	12	201	82	0.10	0.03	1	13.73	1.77	115	101
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Bend	47	95	69	5	133	35	0.01	-0.06	1	12.86	1.83	117	81
Burns AP	48	98	72	5	156	37	0.06	-0.01	2	8.64	-0.58	94	87
Klamath Falls	50	92	71	3	145	14	0.00	-0.07	0	12.46	-0.36	97	96
Lakeview	50	90	71	3	145	19	0.00	-0.07	0	8.86	-6.17	59	62
Redmond	40	101	70	4	143	25	0.07	0.00	2	9.43	1.49	119	83
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	45	96	68	1	128	6	1.01	0.92	2	8.11	-1.72	83	99
Joseph	51	89	70	10	143	66	0.49	0.35	2	17.52	-6.08	74	129
La Grande AP	50	97	71	1	148	7	0.18	0.08	2	12.86	-3.57	78	100
Union	48	98	69	3	136	14	0.43	0.34	2	15.11	2.36	119	128
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	58	100	79	2	203	13	0.00	-0.01	0	8.62	-0.57	94	74
Rome	55	102	79	6	201	40	0.00	-0.07	0	7.05	-0.69	91	77

Summary based on National Weather Service data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Monday, September 1, 2003.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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